there is no gainsaying the fact that in point of English literacy and higher education your community compares unfavourably with other communities such as Brahmins, Nairs and Christians. All the representations that have been made in regard to this matter and especially in regard to English and higher education will receive the attention of Government.

123. Establishment of an English Middle School and the grant of other educational facilities for Arayans.

Mr. K. Velayudha Panikkan (Member, Nominated) represented that there were nofacilities for the pupils of his community for English education, that it was with a view to remove that disability that he urged, at some of the previous sessions of the Assembly, the necessity for the opening of an English Middle School, and that, although the matter was investigated and steps were taken to fix a site for the school, the school had not yet been opened. The Member then dealt with the need for the opening of at least one school in each taluk for the imparting of purely literary education as well as of industrial education in fish-curing and coir manufacture. He then said that Government were not encouraging the few qualified members of his community by giving appointments to them. This was one of the reasons for the present educational backwardness of that community.

In conclusion, the Member requested (1) that an English school with provision for the teaching of industrial subjects might be opened, (2) that technical institutions might be started for the imparting of education in fish industries, (3) that scholarships might be awarded to Araya students who come up for collegiate education, and (4) that suitable appointments might be given to qualified members of his community.

Dewan's reply.—The strength of your community is 9,000 in the whole State. Valans are not included in this figure. We cannot open a special school for such a comparatively small community. All schools are open to the members of your community and your youths are already getting the half-fee concession and the question of further facilities to backward classes in the matter of education is under consideration. We are increasing the number of fish-curing yards in the State. A Night School will shortly be opened at Cheriya Azhikal for members of your community.

124. Educational concessions to Gauda Saraswat Brahmins.

Mr. T. A. Gopala Pye (Member, Municipal Council, Alwaye) submitted that, while the Gauda Saraswat Brahmin community in Travancore numbered about 10,000, only a small figure was found returned at the last Census, and stated that this was evidently due to some mistake in the census operations. It was really humiliating to the community to see that a very small proportion of its members alone had received higher education. Out of the whole community, only fifteen had obtained University degrees and only about fifty or sixty had passed the English School Leaving Certificate Examination. Although 60 per cent of the community were of school-going age, only a few of them attended schools. The Gauda Saraswat Brahmins should, therefore, be classed with the educationally backward communities and allowed all the concessions usually afforded to such communities.

As an incentive to its members to pursue higher studies, the Member also prayed that preference be shown to the educated representatives of the community in the matter of Government appointments.

Dewan's reply.—You say that the strength of your community is 10,000. But the census figures show a smaller strength. It seems to me that it is too small a community to be thought fit for any special educational concessions. Further, the community is not so backward or poor as to deserve the concessions prayed for. I know that yours is a trading community and that such communities are not very particular about higher education. You yourself admit that 60 per cent of the members of your community are literate.

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Member.—That is with reference to Malayalam education.

Dewan.—When the general literacy is so high, I do not see why the community should be so backward in point of higher education. In regard to the economic condition of your community, it is difficult for me to say anything without a detailed examination. Although my reply may be disappointing to you, I must say that no special concessions are called for in the case of your community.

125. Need for giving greater facilities for the education of Pulayas.

Mr. Aiyan Kali (Member, Nominated) pointed out that, although the grant of half-fee concession was helpful to members of other communities in receiving the benefit of higher education, the case was not so in regard to Pulayas. The latter, being extremely poor, were unable to avail themselves of the blessing conferred upon them by Government and the result was that not a single pupil of the community had been able to study up to the English School Leaving Certificate Examination. The Pulayas of this country now numbered about three lakhs, but the number of those who attended schools was only 12,381, and of this, the number attending classes above the 5th was only 136. About six or seven pupils of the community attempted to study and pass the English School Leaving Certificate Examination; but their extreme poverty prevented them from completing the necessary school course. Most of the Pulaya boys were unable to procure their noon-day meal and their case was really pitiable. The Member, therefore, prayed that full fee concession be granted to the Pulaya pupils, that arrangements be made to give them noon-day meal at Government expense, and that education be made compulsory among the members of the community. He also presented a separate memorial on behalf of his community.

Dewan's reply.—The memorial submitted by you will be separately examined.

As regards education, the question of granting further facilities to the depressed classes in the matter of education is under consideration and whatever is found feasible will be done.

126. Need for two Central Boarding institutions for the boys and girls of the Cheramar community.

Mr. N. J. Joseph (Member, Nominated) referred to the Cheramar Sangham established for promoting the educational, social and economic advancement of the community irrespective of the religious faith of its members. He then dwelt upon the historical importance of the community and deplored its educationally backward condition. It was, he said, necessary that Government should take up the work of educating the Cheramars, and, as a preliminary step to this, the Member prayed that two boarding institutions, one for boys and the other for girls, each providing free accommodation and boarding for 250 students, be established in Trivandrum for the exclusive use of the community with provision for instruction in practical agriculture to the boys and domestic science to the girls. Lastly, the Member prayed that, besides the establishment of the two boarding houses mentioned above, arrangements might be made for giving free secondary and collegiate education to such of the boys and girls of those institutions as possessed special aptitude and intelligence for higher studies.

Dewans' reply—You say that the strength of your community is 4,00,000, while the figure as per the recent census is 26.

Member.—The figure is wrong. Our Secretary will give the correct figure. We were classed as Indian Christians at the census.

Dewan.—If you had called yourselves Cheramars, I do not see why the Census Officers should class you as Indian Christians.

Member.—The name 'Cheramar' was adopted only after the census. I request that my representation may be consi lered.

Dewan.—I shall consider it.

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